

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Intelligence Research and Development Council

27 JAN 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: The Intelligence Research and Development Council (IR&DC) (U)

(U) As the departing Chairman of the Intelligence Research and Development Council, I would like to pass on my views concerning the value of the Council and how it might best be used to serve the DCI and the SecDef in the future.

(C) The value of the IR&DC derives from the value of technology both in the Department of Defense and in the Intelligence Community. Both communities are exploiting advanced technology to offset Soviet capabilities. In defense, our technology provides an offset to the larger size of Soviet forces. In intelligence, our technology provides an offset needed to penetrate elements of the closed and secretive Soviet society. But as our advanced technology evolves, we are seeing a growing overlap in the two communities, particularly in sensing and processing technologies as a result of Defense efforts to exploit this heretofore sophisticated and costly technology in our modern precision guided weapons. Recognizing the value of our technology and the growing overlap between technology in our two communities, the IR&DC has provided and will continue to provide a critical coordination and communication function.

(C) Over the past years the Council has examined many diverse and complex issues, but more recently has focused on critical technologies and their future implications in the Intelligence Community. We have considered a full spectrum of technologies, ranging from novel sensors (e.g., fiber optic sensors) which will provide new dimensions to our ability to collect information, to advanced integrated circuits and architectures which will revolutionize our ability to process and digest information. Recognizing that the DoD R&D program is significantly larger than the collective Intelligence Community R&D program, most of the technology transfer accomplished via the IR&DC has been from the DoD to the Intelligence Community. But there has been transfer in the other direction, and both the DoD and the Intelligence Community have benefitted from a forum in which research and development managers could come together to share their knowledge and their individual problems, and collectively gain insight into solutions.

(C) For the future, the Council should continue to focus its attention on transfer of emerging technologies, with primary emphasis on that technology being developed by the Defense establishment which is likely to have significant application to intelligence problems. The Council should operate on

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two tiers. At the first tier, the Council members should function as a Board of R&D Governors. The second tier should be composed, under the Council's aegis, of working groups and panels chartered to explore specific research and development problems or opportunities and report their findings to the Council for consideration. The Council should provide brief, but continuing reports to you on major issues and findings, and be prepared to provide you with scientific and technical counsel, undertaking specific reviews at your direction.

(U) I intend to pass these views on to my successor and will suggest that he be amenable to being designated as your new Council Chairman.

William J. Perry
William J. Perry
Chairman

Attachments

1. History of the IR&DC
2. IR&DC Membership
3. Major subjects studied by the IR&DC

cc: Secretary of Defense

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INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Intelligence Research and Development Council (IR&DC) was established by the Director of Central Intelligence in 1973 as a permanent subcommittee of the then DCI Intelligence Resources Advisory Committee. In 1976 it was designated as a subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Intelligence, and with the 1978 promulgation of Executive Order 12036, "United States Foreign Intelligence Activities," was designated by DCI Intelligence Directive No. 1/12 as a permanent advisory body to the Director of Central Intelligence.

The establishment of the IR&DC was driven by several factors: there was a perceived need to ensure that intelligence R&D resources were attuned to meet the challenges of the future; compartmentation prevented exchange of technology among Intelligence Community organizations and restricted the use of technology already available in other areas of the federal Government or within the Intelligence Community to assess when duplicative or parallel technology efforts were not warranted; and there was no single focal point within the Intelligence Community to serve R&D planners in development of long-range objectives.

Through agreement between the Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence, the Council is chaired by the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, and its membership cuts across all areas of the Intelligence Community and the Department of Defense. Support is provided to the Chairman by the DCI Resource Management Staff.

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INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEMBERSHIP

Chairman, Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering

Deputy to the DCI for Resource Management

Assistant Secretary of the Army (R, D&A)

Assistant Secretary of the Navy (R, E&S)

Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (R, D&L)

Director of Energy Research, Department of Energy

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Communications, Command,
Control, and Intelligence

Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

Deputy Director for Science and Technology, Central Intelligence Agency

Deputy Director for Research and Engineering, National Security Agency

Director of Naval Intelligence

Besides the above designated principals, supportive staffs, observers,
and member alternates total approximately 40 to 50 other personnel who
are involved in Council affairs.

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